



General Assembly

**Substitute Bill No. 5788**

February Session, 2008

\* \_\_\_\_\_HB05788CE\_\_\_\_\_042308\_\_\_\_\_\*

**AN ACT ESTABLISHING A STATE SOLAR STRATEGY.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1      Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) (a) The Renewable Energy  
2      Investments Board, established pursuant to section 16-243n of the 2008  
3      supplement to the general statutes, in consultation with the  
4      Department of Public Utility Control, shall convene a working group  
5      to develop a plan to maximize the use of solar power and create a self-  
6      sustaining solar industry in Connecticut that will help meet renewable  
7      portfolio standard requirements and the greenhouse gas emissions  
8      limits of the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative. Said plan shall  
9      identify a target megawatt goal and a timeline for achieving this target  
10     and shall include recommendations regarding workforce development  
11     and job training necessary to build an in-state solar workforce and  
12     regarding coordination with other programs where appropriate.

13     (b) The working group shall consist of the following members:

14     (1) One representative from each of the state's electric distribution  
15     companies;

16     (2) Two representatives of environmental nonprofits with expertise  
17     in clean energy policy;

18     (3) Two representatives of the solar industry, one of whom shall

19 represent the residential solar industry and one of whom shall  
20 represent a large commercial integrator;

21 (4) One representative of a solar trade association;

22 (5) One representative of renewable finance;

23 (6) One representative of a community college offering solar  
24 training; and

25 (7) The Commissioner of Environmental Protection or the  
26 commissioner's designee.

27 (c) The plan created pursuant to this section shall describe both the  
28 benefits of and the costs associated with achieving a self-sustaining  
29 solar industry and maximizing the use of solar power, including, but  
30 not limited to, (1) types and amounts of incentives to maximize in-state  
31 solar installations; (2) methods of residential solar financing; (3)  
32 estimated energy production; and (4) solar benefits, including avoided  
33 fossil fuel combustion, reduced congestion and peak power  
34 production, job creation, air quality and reductions in global warming  
35 emissions.

36 (d) On or before October 15, 2008, the Renewable Energy  
37 Investments Board shall approve and submit the plan created pursuant  
38 to this section to the Connecticut Energy Advisory Board, established  
39 pursuant to section 16-243m of the 2008 supplement to the general  
40 statutes, and the joint standing committee of the General Assembly  
41 having cognizance of matters relating to energy.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section
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**ET** Joint Favorable Subst.

**LM** Joint Favorable

***CE***      *Joint Favorable*